

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUNICH 00564 081109Z

46

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 040494

R 081035Z MAR 76
FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6773

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUNICH 0564

EXDIS

FOR EUR ARMITAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, XH
SUBJECT: EVALUATION REPORTS OF RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY
OUTPUT

REF: A) STATE 051717 B) STATE 053823

1. CONGEN STRONGLY BELIEVES DEPARTMENT SHOULD ASK BIB TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC CRITERIA FOR EVALUATIONS OF RFE AND RL OUTPUT TO BE CARRIED OUT BY U.S. EMBASSIES IN USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE. CRITERIA SHOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH TWIN ROLES INDICATED FOR SECSTATE IN PUBLIC LAW 93-129, NAMELY: (A) TO PROVIDE THE BIB WITH SUCH INFORMATION ABOUT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AS THE SECRETARY MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE AND (B) BY IMPLICATION, TO ADVISE THE BIB WHETHER THE RADIOS ARE OPERATING IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH THE "BROAD FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES OF THE U.S." CRITERIA SHOULD ALSO BE BASED ON WHATEVER STATEMENT OF BROAD U.S. FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVE DEPARTMENT HAS FURNISHED OR WILL FURNISH BIB.

2. DEPARTMENT AND BIB SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT OVERLY NEGATIVE EVALUATIONS OF RFE AND RL OUTPUT MADE WITHOUT FIRST ESTABLISHING A SET OF APPROPRIATE STANDARDS MIGHT BE LIKELY TO CONCENTRATE ON MATTERS WHICH, IN CONTEXT OF LEGISLATED ROLE OF THE TWO RADIOS, MAY BE PICAYUNE AND SUBJECTIVE. IN LIGHT OF HEAVY RECENT ATTACKS ON RADIOS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MUNICH 00564 081109Z

BY USSR AND SEVERAL OF ITS ALLIES, UNSTRUCTURED CRITI-

CISM OF RADIOS BY OUR EMBASSIES COULD LEAD RFE/RL PERSONNEL TO CONCLUDE THAT DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT OF RADIOS AS INDEPENDENT BROADCAST MEDIA HAS DIMINISHED. PENDING CHANGE OF RFE MANAGEMENT HAS ALREADY LED MANY RFE EMPLOYEES TO BELIEVE THAT INDEPENDENCE AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY OF RFE MAY HAVE BEEN UNDERMINED. MOREOVER, POLITICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BIB AND RFE/RL MANAGEMENT OVER THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES IN GIVING POLICY GUIDANCE TO RADIOS REMAIN UNRESOLVED. (CONGEN IS DOUBTFUL THAT MICKELSON WAS INFORMED OF ABSHIRE'S LETTER TO ASST. SECRETARY HARTMAN AND BELIEVES THAT MICKELSON WOULD HAVE OBJECTED, AT LEAST IN PART, TO OPEN-ENDED NATURE OF REQUESTS CONTAINED IN LETTER.)

3. CONGEN BELIEVES IT WOULD BE USEFUL, IN CONJUNCTION WITH REQUESTS FOR EVALUATIONS OF RFE/RL OUTPUT, TO REMIND EMBASSIES THAT PL 93-129 STATES THAT "CONTINUATION OF RFE AND RL AS INDEPENDENT BROADCAST MEDIA...IS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST." ONE CRITERION THAT MIGHT BE USED BY EMBASSIES IN EVALUATING PROGRAMS WOULD BE COMPARISON OF HOW AMERICAN MEDIA WOULD HANDLE THE ISSUE AT HAND IF IT RELATED TO U.S. DOMESTIC SCENE. PETERSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIO BROADCASTING, SEMIANNUAL REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MUNICH00564
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760087-0214
From: MUNICH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760384/aaaacwmq.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 51717, 76 STATE 53823
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EVALUATION REPORTS OF RADIO FREE EUROPE AND RADIO LIBERTY OUTPUT
TAGS: PFOR, US, XH, RFE, RADIO LIBERTY, BIB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006